

OUT TAKES

Autumn 2008



UTAH FILM
COMMISSION



Disney Channel's *Hatching Pete* - Judge Memorial High School, Salt Lake City

UTAH FILM COMMISSION

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Film Industry Update

By Marshall Moore

Dear Utah Film Industry,

Fiscal Year 2008 was our most prolific film production year ever. Twenty-eight films were produced and shot in the state including *High School Musical 3: Senior Year*, *The Assignment*, *S. Darko*, *Blank Slate* and *The Tree of Life*. This increase from 23 films in FY 2007 can be attributed to a larger incentive fund, more locally produced films and by your outstanding work that kept producers coming back to Utah.

With this progress comes change. The biggest one made this year was the creation of the Motion Picture Advisory Committee (MPAC). The primary function of MPAC is to review all Motion Picture Incentive Fund (MPIF) applications and then make recommendations to the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) Board for approval. Members of the MPAC committee are as follows; Dr. Nikos Linardakos (GOED Board member) who serves as committee chair, Adam Able (Go Films), Roger Armstrong (Entertainment Attorney), Margaret Hilliard (Freelance Production Manager), Jeff Miller (Vineyard Productions), Tim Nelson (Producer/Director) and Joe Pia (Entertainment Attorney).

We would like to express our sincere thanks to this committee



Marshall Moore

for their volunteer efforts on behalf of the state of Utah and the Utah Film Commission. Their service has been vital to the success of the film incentive program.

Currently, the MPIF has approximately 2 million dollars left for the fiscal year 2008 which will expire on June 30, 2009. We are now working to make some positive changes to the incentive program for the coming year.

One of those changes includes drafting new legislation for a more robust incentive program. The passing of this bill would increase our capacity to attract larger studio productions, independent productions and a television series by offering a refundable tax credit.

The Utah Film Commission along with GOED has been

presenting this message to the Workforce Services and Economic Development Interim Committee over the past three months. The final draft legislation will be presented this month, and your support will be critical to its success. Information on the bill will be provided to the industry as it is made.

Another good source for new legislative updates and action is the Motion Picture Association of Utah (MPAU). Their efforts over the past five years have been important to the success of film incentives in the state. At this year's legislative session the MPAU and our office will need your support to sustain our endeavors.

As always we encourage you to use the resources on our web site, film.utah.gov. Here you will find incentive information, support services, local crew and an extensive location image library.

This is an exciting time for the Utah film industry, a time for change and growth; therefore it is essential for you to be involved. If you have thoughts, concerns or comments that you feel will help make these changes possible please send them to me at mdmoore@utah.gov

See you on set,

Marshall

Fiscal Year Wrap Up

Films Shot in Fiscal Year 2008

Adventures of Food Boy, *The American Mall*, *Animals*, *The Assignment*, *The Attic Door*, *Blank Slate*, *CTU Provo*, *The Cusp*, *Dadnapped*, *Darkroom*, *Dragon Hunter*, *Emma Smith: My Story*, *Friends for Life*, *Gentlemen Broncos*, *Hatching Pete*, *High School Musical: Get in the Picture*, *High School Musical 3: Senior Year*, *The Jerk Theory*, *Lock and Roll Forever*, *Minutemen*, *Red Canyon*, *S. Darko*, *The Singles Second Ward*, *Star Trek*, *Tree of Life*, *Two Young Men*, *White on Rice*, *The Yankles*.

Monthly Incentive Dates

- Film incentive applications (reviewed for the following month) due by the third Thursday.
- Motion Picture Advisory Committee meets every second Wednesday.
- Governor's Office of Economic Development Incentive Board meets every second Thursday.

Breakdown

Motion Pictures: 28
Commercials/Industrials: 73
Total Jobs Created: 3,525
Total Production Days: 746
Total Economic Impact:
\$55,800,768
Sundance Film Festival:
\$63,000,000

Governor & the Big Picture

- Salt Lake City

Governor Jon Huntsman addressed the "big picture" with the Utah film industry during its annual summer luncheon at the Hilton hotel. Governor Huntsman expressed his interest in enhancing the current Motion Picture Incentive program to attract larger movie productions as well as an ongoing television series.

Improving the incentive program will allow Utah to compete for larger film productions to be produced in the State. "Imagine the impact of a \$100 million major movie," said Governor Huntsman. "If we want to be the premiere film destination in the U.S., we need a premiere motion picture incentive program." With 40 states offering incentive packages, Governor Huntsman emphasized the idea, "We need our incentives to be more competitive to encourage Utah production of all film sizes. Utah is doing well with the smaller independent films but it is the larger studio films that Utah



Governor Jon Huntsman speaking at the Summer Film Industry Luncheon.

will gain with the motion picture incentive change." The Governor indicated this would be a top priority for the Governor's Office of Economic Development in the 2009 Legislative session.

The Utah Film Commission agrees with Governor Huntsman's interest in creating a more robust motion picture incentive program. Marshall Moore explains why,

"The Utah Film Commission's future goal is to attract the large studio productions to Utah." Currently, larger budget productions can not consider Utah due to the limitations of the current incentive program. "By improving our film incentive program we can attract larger budget films, a television series and still keep the independents," added Moore.

"If we want to be the premiere film destination in the U.S., we need a premiere motion picture incentive program."

- Governor Jon Huntsman

Find your State Legislator on the web at:
www.le.state.ut.us

President of the Motion Picture Association of Utah (MPAU), Don Schain, also addressed the luncheon and applauded Governor Huntsman's ongoing support of the film industry in Utah. He encouraged those working in the film industry to be more involved by contacting their local state legislators to give them a better understanding of the Utah film industry.

Disney Holds Press Conference



Ashley Tisdale, Zac Efron, Vanessa Hudgens, Kenny Ortega (director), Monique Coleman and Corbin Bleu

On May 22, 2008 Disney held a press conference for *High School Musical 3: Senior Year* at East High School. It opened with Governor Huntsman welcoming back the filmmakers, "We are deeply honored and delighted to have the cast and the filmmakers of *High School Musical* back in the greatest State in America."

Governor Huntsman was speaking of the film's director Kenny Ortega, producers Bill Borden,

Barry Rosenbush, Don Schain and writer Peter Barsocchini along with stars Zach Efron, Vanessa Anne Hudgens, Ashley Tisdale, Corbin Bleu and Monique Coleman.

Also present was Marshall Moore. He gave congratulations and thanks to the filmmakers, Governor Huntsman and the legislators of Utah. "We had to work very hard in getting *High School Musical* back to the state. It was a great effort on everyone's

part to make sure a film of this caliber was made in Utah."

Governor Huntsman, the Utah State Legislator and the Utah Film Commission worked together to provide a onetime incentive of \$1.5 million to bring *HSM3* to the state. "If it wasn't for this one time allocation, *HSM3* would have most likely been shot elsewhere," said Marshall Moore.

Don Schain remarked on the status of film incentives and necessity to stay competitive, "Film has become such an incentives game these days and Governor Huntsman was able to find a way to work a little outside the box."

Kenny Ortega commented on how helpful the State has been to accommodate the film "This has been an absolutely incredible experience from the community, the talent, the film commission, the Governor, everyone here has contributed to the success of High

High School Musical."

That success of *HSM* is a big deal for the State. The original *High School Musical* (2005) was a cable feature for the Disney Channel with a budget of \$4.5 million. It generated \$2.6 million in direct Utah spend. By comparison, *High School Musical 3: Senior Year* (2008) a theatrical release, had a budget of \$33 million; with a projected direct spend of \$13.3 million, an increase of 500%.

As for the cast they felt they were back home "I love Salt Lake!" exclaimed Ashley Tisdale. While Zac and Vanessa stated they "couldn't imagine filming this movie anywhere else, this is really our home now."

High School Musical 3: Senior Year will premiere October 24, 2008 in theatres worldwide.

The American Mall Screened

The UFC held two screenings of *The American Mall* in Salt Lake City this past August at the Megaplex Theaters at the Gateway.

The new musical was shot during the month of January in Salt Lake City and on location at The Provo Towne Center Mall. While at the mall, the production was in a corner, beneath the movie theatres during most of the production. "The community and mall management were all very supportive; they were able to balance between the daily traffic of shoppers that were allowed to

stop and watch the making of the film," said Melissa Nielson, the Utah Valley Film Commissioner.

Director Shawn Ku and cast, Bianca Collins, Rodney To, Bresha Webb and producer Bill Borden, who also produced all three *High School Musicals*, were present. After the screening the cast signed autographs, took pictures and answered questions from the audience.

The American Mall premiered on August 11th on MTV. The DVD is currently available.



Bill Borden (producer), Bresha Webb, Shawn Ku (director), Bresha Webb, Bianca Collins, Bianca Collins.

"Spot On"

The 2008 "Spot On" Commercial Contest is in full swing. The contest is open to all Utah residents and students attending school in the state. Winners will receive \$1,500 per winning commercial, Sundance Film Festival credentials and other prizes. Enter today at film.utah.gov.

Burke Lewis, last year's 2007 Concept Award Winner was given the opportunity by the UFC to re-make his commercial using a professional production crew. The new spot was shown at the Summer Industry Luncheon. Thanks to Kaleidoscope Pictures, Redman Movies & Stories and everyone else that donated their time. View the new commercial on the UFC website.



"Utah. We Are Filmmaking" commercial spot.

Over the Years

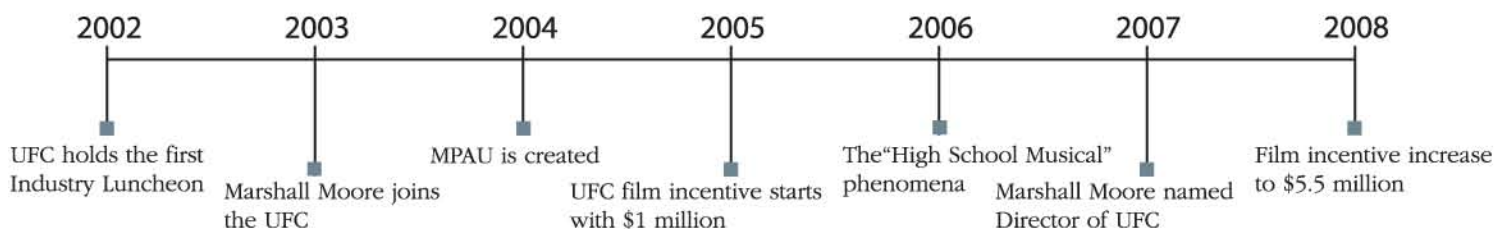


The *Out Takes* newsletter has taken on some different looks over the past years, but the purpose has always stayed the same: Report on the film industry.

From looking like a copied flyer, *Out Takes* took on a major face lift in 2003 that lasted over two years and seven issues. A new look came in 2006, but only lasted two issues due to a new brand and logo release.

Now in its fourth issue, the current sleek style and layout sets the standard for this type of media in our industry showing that *Out Takes* is in fact The Motion Picture Industry Newsletter.

Take a look below at some interesting points over the past 6 years.



Name That Crew Person

Once again it's time to play the game. Identify the names of these crew members with the corresponding number. Then send your answers via e-mail to Mimi Davis-Taylor at mdtaylor@utah.gov. The first person to name all the crew members correctly will win a prize. If you have any questions, please contact our office at 801.538.8740.



Name That Crew Person Wrap Up

The winner from the last Name That Crew Person game was J.J. Gerber. J.J. won an official UFC backpack for his accurate knowledge. Below are the answers for each crew member.

1. Rachel Mocer
2. Brian Lives
3. Kathy Jarvis
4. Mike Staheli
5. Craig Sullivan
6. Natalie Cass
7. Brandon Ellsworth
8. Hayley Badham



New Brochure Out

The *Filmed in Utah* brochure, a guide to movies (and television series) that were shot in the state, is now being distributed.

The new brochure features Utah's film history over the past 80 years and showing over 60 of Utah's

most popular films and prominent actors such as Jodi Foster in *Maverick*, Tom Hanks in *Forrest Gump*, Anthony Hopkins in *The World's Fastest Indian*, Susan Sarandon in *Thelma & Louise*, Tom Cruise in *Mission Impossible II* and of course John Wayne.

The brochure is free and sent out to welcome centers, tourism offices and tour operators across the state. If you would like to receive copies of the *Filmed in Utah Brochure*, please contact the Utah Film Commission at 801.538.8740



In Memory



Andrew A. Ackerman co-executive producer of *Eli Stone*, *Jack & Bobby* and *Everwood*, passed away on July 27, 2008.

Andy wanted to thank everyone and to let them know how deeply it touched him to have such incredible love and support from his family, friends and colleagues during his struggle.

Born on November 8, 1984, Benjamin Lund passed away on the morning of April 10, 2008 while working at the job he loved.

Benjamin worked as a transportation driver in the film industry, an industry he loved for so many reasons. He had just finished working on Disney's *Hatching Pete* and was currently working on *Blank Slate* a series for TNT at the time of his passing.



PREVIEWS

October

- 16 Spy Hop Productions "Best Of Awards Ceremony" 7 PM, Fort Douglas Post Theater
- 24 *High School Musical 3: Senior Year* opens
- 24-26 SLC Film Center: Films to See Before You Vote - Phil Donahue, Michael Kirk, Naomi Wolf
- 30-31 Salt Lake Film Society *Rocky Horror Picture Show* Tower Theatre midnight
- 31 "Spot On" Commercial Contest Applications due

November

- 1 Salt Lake Film Society *Rocky Horror Picture Show* Tower Theatre midnight
- 1 The 2008 Salt Lake Freedom Film and Storytelling Festival (Fort Douglas Post Theater)
- 11 Spy Hop Productions Pitch-Nic Premiere Screening, 7:30 PM, Megaplex 12 at Gateway
- 12 Salt Lake Film Society short film submissions due
- 19 - 23 Cineposium International Conference 2008: Wellington New Zealand
- 28 "Spot On" Commercial Contest submissions due by 5:00 PM M.S.T.

December

- 17 Winter Awards Luncheon (subject to change)

January 2009

- 15-25 Sundance Film Festival

REVIEWS

Awards at AFCI

The UFC took four honors at the AFCI Locations Trade Show Marketing Awards:

Speciality Clothing - First Place

Digital Presentation - Second Place

Speciality Item - Third Place

Advertising - Color - Honorable Mention

Resource Directory

Update your Resource Directory listing. Update your credits, contact information, even add a resume. If you know a crew person that is not in the Resource Directory, ask them to register today by heading to film.utah.gov



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